



LIBRARY

# REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH

OF THE

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
OF SHILDON

FOR THE YEAR  
1965



# THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SHILDON

1965

*Chairman of the Council:* Councillor Mrs. M. ASTON, J.P.,

*Vice-Chairman:* Councillor P. DOUTHWAITE.

*Chairman of the Health Committee:* Councillor R. MOYLE

*Chairman of the Housing Committee:* Councillor W. EDWARDS

## *Councillors:*

D. B. S. ANGEL	MRS. M. DODDS	W. NUNN
W. BAYES	J. FORSTER	F. PICKERING
E. BARLOW	J. HOWE	T. RILEY
T. BENNETT	J. G. HUNTINGTON	F. J. ROBSON
G. A. BROWN	W. JACKSON	B. WALKER, J.P.,
	K. NEWBY	C.C.

## *Public Health Officers of the Local Authority*

### *Medical Officer of Health (part-time):*

J. M. HEGARTY, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H.

### *Public Health Inspector:*

W. K. HILL, M.B.E., M.P.H.I.A.

### *Additional Public Health Inspector:*

K. ROBSON

### *Pupil Public Health Inspector:*

G. SEWELL

### *Clerical Assistant:*

S. THOMPSON

# **Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health**

**YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1965**

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you the Annual Report for the year 1965.

The Vital Statistics, which afford a means of comparison between the Health of a District in the different years and with the rest of the Country, compare quite favourably with the previous years and with the Country as a whole.

The Birth Rate is higher. The Still Birth Rate is much higher than last year but still low in comparison with other years. The Death Rate is a little lower. There were 159 deaths, as against 157 in 1964—the population having decreased by 30. Of these 159 deaths, well over half reached the allotted span, 52 died aged 70—80; 29 between 80—90 and 2 were over 90 years.

The Infant Mortality Rate is very much lower. There were 7 deaths—the same number as last year. Of these infant deaths, 2 died from Malformation, 2 from Prematurity, 1 from Congestive Heart Failure, 1 from Renal Failure and 1 from Asphyxia due to inhalation of vomit. Again, of these 7 deaths, 3 died under 1 week, another 2 under 1 month, 1 at 7 weeks and 1 at 3 weeks. All of these babies except the one who died from the accident of inhalation of vomit, died in hospital.

The number of cases of Cancer of all parts of the body was the same as last year—29, but cancer of the Lung or Bronchus, increased from 8 to 10 cases. This is the national trend. Some more convincing evidence of the connection between Lung Cancer and Cigarette smoking will have to be proved if people are to be persuaded to give up this soothing habit. The sale of cigarettes is still mounting.

Deaths due to conditions of the heart and vascular system numbered 60 as against 61 in 1964 and 73 in 1963. Diabetes accounted for 2 deaths, half the number of deaths of last year. There were only 3 from Pneumonia and 3 from Bronchitis. Last year these figures were 7 and 8. There was only 1 suicide as against 3 in 1964. There were only 2 deaths from accidents as against 6 last year.

There were 2 deaths from Tuberculosis (none last year). There were 5 new notifications (4 last year).

During the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit's visit of 5 days, 1,063 people were X-rayed. A total of 7 were referred to the Chest Clinic for large X-ray, and of these, 1 was found to be active Tuberculosis and 2 inactive. Four other conditions were discovered.

B.C.G. Vaccinations against Tuberculosis are carried out each year in the Senior Schools. The response continues good and I would like to acknowledge the excellent co-operation received from all head teachers.

The number of notifications of infectious diseases numbered 285—60 more than last year. Measles accounted for 172. There were 16 cases of Whooping Cough and 21 of Scarlet Fever. There were 5 confirmed cases of Dysentery in comparison with 10 last year.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis continues to be offered in the schools as well as in Clinics and General Practitioner's Surgeries. Immunisation against Diphtheria and Tetanus is similarly offered. The response in the schools is quite good. Triple vaccination against Whooping Cough, Diphtheria and Tetanus is offered in Clinics and General Practitioner's Surgeries. Smallpox Vaccination is carried out in the 2nd year of life.

Home Helps were supplied to 158 homes during the year—148 last year.

The Meals on Wheels Service, which is run by the W.V.S., continues to supply 24 dinners twice per week.

The Luncheon Club, commenced last year for the over 70's, is carrying on very satisfactorily in supplying 20-25 people in each of the two premises. We would again like to thank the Committees of the Old Shildon and New Shildon Workmen's Clubs for the free use of their halls.



The Chiropody Service run by the Red Cross, provided 352 treatments during the year to 122 pensioners. The sessions increased from 2 per month to a weekly service due to the increase in the waiting list.

All these services are much appreciated by the Shildon people and we are indebted to the organisations and particularly to the people who do the day to day work.

56 houses were built by the Council with State Assistance and by 3 private persons—making a total of 59 houses for the year. The standard of housing has continued to improve due to the implementation of the Upper Limit of the Standard Grant Scheme.

Whilst the Council has not created any new Clean Air Areas they are continuing with the policy of providing smokeless appliances in their new housing development.

The preliminary work of municipalisation of dustbins throughout the urban area was carried out with a view to its implementation early in 1966 and converting throughout to the Paper Sack System.

The Sewage Works continues to turn out an effluent which on the whole, meets with the approval of the River Board but in anticipation of a more stringent standard being imposed by the River Board, the Council have engaged Consultants to investigate the future policy as regards the works.

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## VITAL STATISTICS

### POPULATION

The Registrar General's figures for the Area at Mid 1965, show the resident population as 13,910, this being a decrease of 30 in comparison with the previous year. The Comparability Factors for Shildon are:—

Births	1.03
Deaths	1.20

Live Births	Male	Female		
Number	140	121	=	261
Rate per 1,000 population				19.32 Standard.

**Illegitimate Live Births** (per cent. of total live births): 3.44%

#### Still Births:

	Male	Female		
Number	1	1	=	2
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births:				7.8

#### Total Live and Still Births:

	Male	Female	Total
Live	140	121	261
Still Births	1	1	2
Rate per 1,000:			19.47

#### Infants Deaths (deaths under one year):

1	6	7
---	---	---

#### Infant Mortality Rates:

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births: 32.19

Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births:  
25.58

Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births:  
133.4

**Neo-Natal Mortality Rate** (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births): 22.99

**Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate** (deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births): 13.79

**Perinatal Mortality Rate** (still births and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births): 22.81

**Maternal Mortality** (including abortion):

Number of Deaths: Nil

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births: Nil

**Death Rate:**

Shildon Area	...	...	13.7	per 1,000 population
England and Wales	...	11.5	„	„
Deaths in Shildon Area, as per Returns to the Medical Officer of Health	...	...	...	...
Deaths of Shildon Residents outside the area	...	82		

**Infantile Mortality Rate:**

The number of Deaths of children under the age of one year is 7, representing an Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births of 32.19. Of these 7, 1 occurred in Shildon.

The Infantile Mortality figure for England and Wales is 19.0 per 1,000 Live Births.

**SUMMARY OF STATISTICS**

	Death Rate per 1,000 pop'n	Inf. Mort. Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	Birth Rate per 1,000 pop'n
Country Average (England & Wales) ...	11.5	19.0	15.7	18.1
Shildon ... ..	13.7	32.9	7.83	19.32



**Births in excess of Deaths:**

1950	...	...	56	1958	...	...	98
1951	...	...	52	1959	...	...	74
1952	...	...	58	1960	...	...	34
1953	...	...	64	1961	...	...	101
1954	...	...	61	1962	...	...	104
1955	...	...	27	1963	...	...	58
1956	...	...	71	1964	...	...	74
1957	...	...	50	1965	...	...	102

**Population Changes:**

1955	...	...	...	...	14,160
1956	...	...	...	...	14,050
1957	...	...	...	...	13,960
1958	...	...	...	...	13,920
1959	...	...	...	...	13,910
1960	...	...	...	...	13,920
1961	...	...	...	...	14,070
1962	...	...	...	...	14,130
1963	...	...	...	...	14,020
1964	...	...	...	...	13,940
1965	...	...	...	...	13,910

**Age Groups of Deaths in Shildon:**

Under 1 yr.	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-60	60-70	70-80	Over 80	Total
1	—	—	—	4	17	17	22	16	77

**Age Groups of Deaths Outside the Area:**

Under 1 yr.	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-60	60-70	70-80	Over 80	Total
8	2	—	—	4	13	18	25	12	82

Causes of Death, 1965	Male	Female
Tuberculosis, Respiratory ... ..	1	—
Tuberculosis, other ... ..	1	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ... ..	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ... ..	1	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ... ..	8	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ... ..	—	6
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ... ..	4	5
Diabetes ... ..	1	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ... ..	21	19
Coronary Disease, Angina ... ..	24	13
Other Heart Disease ... ..	6	10
Other Circulatory Disease ... ..	1	6
Pneumonia ... ..	2	1
Bronchitis ... ..	2	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ... ..	—	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis ... ..	—	1
Congenital Malformations ... ..	1	2
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases ... ..	6	4
Motor Vehicle Accidents ... ..	1	—
All other Accidents ... ..	—	1
Suicide ... ..	1	—
	81	78

# INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Table of Cases as notified in the Whole District, set out in age groups (Civilians only)

Infectious Disease	Under 1 yr.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-61	61 & over	At all ages
Scarlet Fever ...	—	2	3	2	3	8	3	—	—	—	—	—	21
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	2	1	4	3	15
Whooping Cough ...	—	4	3	2	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	16
Measles ...	11	17	33	26	36	49	—	—	—	—	—	—	172
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TUBERCULOSIS:													
1. MALES:													
(a) Pulmonary ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2
(b) Non Pulmonary ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
2. FEMALES:													
(a) Pulmonary ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
(b) Non Pulmonary ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	2	4	3	2	5	16	—	2	9	6	3	—	52
	13	27	42	32	46	80	4	6	14	7	9	5	285

## TUBERCULOSIS

The following cases remained on the Register at the end of the year:

		Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
Males ...	...	76	9	85
Females...	...	58	15	73
		<hr/> 134	<hr/> 24	<hr/> 158

This shows an increase of 4 Pulmonary and 1 Non-Pulmonary cases over the previous year.

The number of known Tuberculosis Cases in the District represents 1.14% of the population, an increase of .05% over the previous year.

There were 5 Cases notified during the year in the following age groups:

				Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
				Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 1 year	...	...		—	—	—	—
1-5 years	...	...		—	—	—	—
5-10	„	...	...	—	—	—	—
10-15	„	...	...	—	—	—	—
15-20	„	...	...	—	1	—	—
20-25	„	...	...	—	—	—	—
25-30	„	...	...	1	1	—	—
30-35	„	...	...	—	—	—	—
35-40	„	...	...	—	—	—	—
40-45	„	...	...	—	—	—	—
45-50	„	...	...	—	—	—	—
50-55	„	...	...	—	—	—	—
55-60	„	...	...	—	—	1	—
60-65	„	...	...	1	—	—	—
				2	2	1	—

## VACCINATION RETURNS FOR THE YEAR 1965

### Immunisation against Diphtheria:—

239 No. — Primary Injections.

188 No. — Booster Injections.

### Whooping Cough:—

207 No. — Primary Injections.

111 No. — Booster Injections.



## VACCINATION RETURNS FOR THE YEAR 1965—*continued*

### Tetanus Injections:—

248 No. — Primary Injections.

199 No. — Booster Injections.

### Smallpox Vaccinations:—

58 No. — Primary Vaccination.

5 No. — Re-Vaccination.

### Poliomyelitis Vaccination:—

249 No. — Received third Oral.

156 No. — Received Booster Oral.

2 No. — Received Primary course of Salk Injections.

1 No. — Received Booster dose of Salk Vaccine.

The figures for Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Smallpox and Poliomyelitis are for children of 16 years and under only.

### B.C.G. Vaccination:—

86 No. — Children were Heaf Tested.

No children were Positive.

82 No. — Children were found to be Negative.

82 No. — Children were Vaccinated.

The above B.C.G. figures apply to children attending schools in the Shildon Urban District.

## HOME HELP SERVICE

Number of cases receiving Home Help at 1.1.1965	...	118
New cases received during year	... ..	40
Total number of cases provided with help during year	...	158
Cases terminated during the year	... ..	31
Cases receiving service at 31.12.1965	... ..	127

The result of the 5 day visit of the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit being as follows:

	Male	Female	Total
No. of examinees	484	579	1,063
Referred to Clinic	5	2	7
Abnormalities:			
Active Tuberculosis	...	1	
Inactive Tuberculosis	...	2	
Malignant Neoplasm	...	1	
Pulmonary Fibrosis	...	2	
Pneumoconiosis	... ..	1	
		7	

## PARTICULARS OF DISTRICT

Area (in acres) including Eldon, Old Eldon, Mid- dridge and Brusselton ... ..	4,828
No. of inhabited houses in the District of which 59 were constructed during the year, 20 Con- demned/Closed and Demolition Orders served under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957, 11 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936. The tenants of such houses demolished being re-housed by this Council ... ..	4,705
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ... ..	£1,066
Rateable Value ... ..	£275,918

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Refuse Collection:

Domestic, Shop and Trade Refuse is collected throughout the area by regular weekly collection provided by the Council. The disposal of the refuse is done by controlled tipping at Sunnydale Tip in a most satisfactory manner.

### Collection of Salvage:

This service is continued along with the normal collection of household refuse in the area:

Description	Tons	Cwts.	£	s.	d.
Scrap Metal ... ..	7	9	93	3	3

### Drains and Sewerage:

The drains and sewers continue to work in a satisfactory manner.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA— *continued*

### **Rodent Control:**

Private businesses and dwelling houses were treated as and where necessary—a charge being made to properties other than dwelling house property, and complete sewer treatments were carried out during the year. A Rodent Operator is employed by the Council for the purpose of carrying out this work.

The public continue to report promptly to the Council Offices any infestation of rats and mice being found on their property.

No. of premises visited  
295

No. of baits laid  
2,106

The number of visits made during the year on Rat Infested premises during which treatment was carried out being ... 1,359

### **Water Supply:**

The water supply to the area has been satisfactory in quality for the year.

(a) The total number of bacteriological samples taken by the Durham County Water Board in the Shildon Urban area during 1965 was 76, of which 57 were excellent, 11 satisfactory, 3 suspicious and 5 unsatisfactory. The suspicious and unsatisfactory ones were due to local faults and on re-sampling were found to be clear.

(b) The water supply to Shildon is not plumbo-solvent; the hardness varying from 50-140 p.p.m.

(c) There were 27 burst mains which affected the Shildon supply during the year. Chlorination is carried out after all main repairs and bacteriological tests are made until a satisfactory result is obtained.

(d) There are 4,757 dwelling houses supplied, 107 lock-up shops or offices, and 119 metered supplies.

**Summary of Notices and work done in the Public Health Inspectors  
Department during the Year ended 1965.**

**1. Houses erected in area:**

	With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
(a) By Local Authority ... ..	56	—	56
(b) By any other Local Authority ... ..	—	—	—
(c) By private persons ... ..	—	3	3
	56	3	59

**2. Closing and Demolition of Houses.**

**(a) Formal Action:**

	No.
(i) No. of houses demolished during the year as a result of Clearance Schemes or other formal action ... ..	17
(ii) No. of houses Closed but not demolished as a result of formal action ... ..	3
(iii) No. of houses in Clearance Areas and individual unfit houses, demolition of which temporarily postponed ... ..	—
(iv) No. of houses in use as temporary accommodation ... ..	4

**(b) Informal Action:**

(i) No. of houses permanently discontinued as dwellings as a result of informal action and not included above ... ..	1
--	---

**3. Reconditioning and Repair.**

No. of houses made fit during year by procedure under Housing Acts (excluding temporary accommodation) or Public Health Acts:—

	No.
(a) As a result of informal action ... ..	78
(b) By owners as a result of statutory notice ... ..	4
(c) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	—



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA— *continued*

4.

### (a) Water, Food and Drugs:

	No.
Samples of water taken for Analysis (water samples are taken by the Durham County Water Board) ... ..	—
No isolated samples were taken by this Council as this is the function of the Durham County Council ... ..	—
Seizures of unwholesome food (voluntarily surrendered) ... ..	250
Samples of Food and Drugs taken for Analysis or found to be adulterated ... ..	—
Number of cases of food adulteration reported to this Council ... ..	—

### (b) Precautions against Infectious Diseases:

Lots of Infectious Bedding Stoved or Destroyed	1
Houses disinfected after Infectious Disease ...	3

### (c) General:

Number of new houses Erected during the year	59
Number of such houses Occupied during the year	59
Total number of Water Closets in the District ...	5,136
Total number of Ash-pit privies in District ...	61

## MILK RETAILERS

There are 6 Retail Purveyors in the District who are supplying either Pasteurised or Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk.

Regular samples are taken for testing by the Durham County Council Weights and Measures Department who have reported satisfactory results during the year.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA— *continued*

### SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Under the provisions of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, there are 4 slaughterhouses. The 4 slaughterhouses concerned are each attached to the retail shop for which they are used, and conform to the standards laid down under the provisions of the above Act, and have been duly licensed thereunder. All animals slaughtered have been subject to inspection which has amounted to 100%. A high standard of cleanliness has been maintained in the slaughterhouses throughout the period.

The slaughterhouses have also been inspected by the Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and have been found satisfactory.

The 4 slaughterhouses concerned are as follows:—

- (1) J. N. Percival ... 25, Church Street, Shildon.
- (2) J. Studham ... 49, Church Street, Shildon.
- (3) F. S. Hodgson ... 13, St. John's Road, Shildon.
- (4) E. Smith (Jnr.) ... 9, Redworth Road, Shildon.

The total number of animals inspected during the year being:—

				Animals Slaughtered
Cattle	...	...	...	214
Sheep	...	...	...	368
Pigs	...	...	...	400

### HOUSING

(a) The Council's Pre- and Post-War Housing Programmes are summarised as follows:—

							No. Erected
1919 Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	124
1930-1935 Act:							
North Eastern Housing Association, Newcastle.							
(Let by this Council)	...	...	...	...	...	...	100

## HOUSING—*continued*

	No. Erected
Post-War Temporary Housing ... ..	19
Post-War Permanent Housing ... ..	986
Post-War Aged Persons Bungalows ... ..	178
Post-War Flats ... ..	58
(28 available for Old Aged Persons)	

### (b) Re-Housing:

During the year ended 31st December, 1965, 102 houses were let to the following groups, in accordance with the Council's allocation of houses Scheme:

	No.
Points ... ..	66
Individual Unfit Houses... ..	22
Medical Cases ... ..	3
Key Workers ... ..	10
Eviction Cases ... ..	1
	<hr/> 102 <hr/>

(c) The number of houses built by the Council during the year was 56, situated on the Jubilee Field Estate, Shildon.

The allocation of Council houses is made on the following grounds:

- (1) Clearance.
- (2) Points.

together with serious medical cases. Special provisions being made to allocate bungalows to old people within the town itself.

Persons requiring housing accommodation, should complete the Housing Application Form, obtainable at the Council Offices, for inclusion on the following year's Housing List.

The number of applicants remaining on the Housing and Bungalow List at 31st December, 1965, were as follows:—

Applications	Type of dwelling required
115	Two bedroom house.
32	Three bedroom house.
158	Bungalows.

**Part I—Applications for Certificates of Disrepair:**

(a) No. of applications for Certificates	...	...	—
(b) No. of decisions not to issue Certificates	...	—	
(c) No. of decisions to issue Certificates—			
(i) in respect of some but not all defects	...	—	
(ii) in respect of all defects	...	...	—
(d) No. of undertakings given by Landlords under para. 5 of the 1st Schedule	...	...	—
(e) No. of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to para. 5 of the 1st Schedule	...	—	
(f) No. of Certificates issued	...	...	—

**Part II—Applications for Cancellation of Certificates:**

(g) Applications by Landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of Certificates	...	...	—
(h) Objections by Tenants to cancellation of Certificates	...	...	—
(i) Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of Tenant's objections	...	...	—
(j) Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	...	—	

**(d) House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 (Standard Grants).**

The following is a summary of applications received under the provisions of the above Act, from January—31st December, 1965:—

(i) No. of applications received	...	...	84
(ii) No. of applications approved	...	...	77



(iii) No. of applications rejected	...	...	...	5
(iv) No. of applications withdrawn	...	...	...	2
(v) No. of improvements completed	...	...	...	72

During the year 1964/1965, the Shildon Accident Prevention Society Team were successful in winning the Northumberland and County Durham Cycling Proficiency Championship.

During this period, 111 children were trained in cycling proficiency as follows:

(a) First year.	54 No.
(b) Second year.	35 No.
(c) Third year.	11 No.
(d) Fourth year.	3 No.
(e) Fifth year.	5 No.
(f) Sixth year.	3 No.
	<hr/>
	111 No.
	<hr/>

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Regular visits were paid to the factories in the area and, in general, conditions were found to be good.

I would like to acknowledge the consideration and courtesy shown to me by my Council and express my thanks to the staff of the Health Department for another year's good work.

I remain,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. M. HEGARTY,

*Medical Officer of Health,  
Shildon Urban District Council.*



